

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 2 - 8, 31 - 36, 38 - 44, 46, 47, 50, and 55 - 58 will be pending, claims 51 - 54 have been cancelled and claims 56 - 58 having been added. Claims 2 - 4, 6 - 8, 31 - 36, 38 - 43, and 55 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

In the final Office Action dated September 1, 2005, the Examiner stated that independent claims 44, 46, 47, and 50 were allowed over the prior art of record. The applicants have amended claims 2 - 8, and 55 to depend, indirectly or directly, from allowed claim 44. The applicants have amended claims 31 - 36 to depend from allowed claim 46. The applicants have amended claims 38 - 43 to depend from allowed claim 47. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 2 - 8, 31 - 36, 38 - 44, 46, 47, 50, and 55 are in condition for allowance.

In an original Rule 116 amendment filed October 12, 2005, the applicants made the same amendments as discussed above and added claims 56 - 62. In an advisory action dated November 7, 2005, the Examiner stated that the original Rule 116 amendment would not be entered because the number of added claims did not have a corresponding number of cancelled claims. The applicants would like to thank the Examiner for taking the time to speak with the applicants' attorney on December 16, 2005 to clarify the Advisory Action.

In this supplemental Rule 116 amendment, the applicants have only added claims 56 - 58 (i.e., 3 claims) and have cancelled claims 51 - 54 (i.e., 4 claims).

Accordingly, the applicants believe that the amendment can be entered because three additional claims have been added and a corresponding greater number (four) of claims have been cancelled. **The newly added independent claim 56 is a method claim that follows the language of allowed system claim 50.** Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claim 56 is in condition for allowance. Claims 57 - 58 depend, indirectly or directly on claim 56. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 57 - 58 are in condition for allowance.

As noted above, the Examiner rejected independent claims 51, 52, 53, and 54 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable of U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2001/0032336 to Kaufman et al. ("the Kaufman reference"). The applicants have cancelled claims 51, 52, 53, and 54.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested on the ground that it places the application in condition for allowance.

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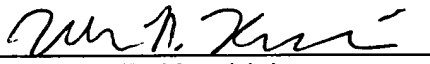
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Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and a favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call either of the undersigned attorneys at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

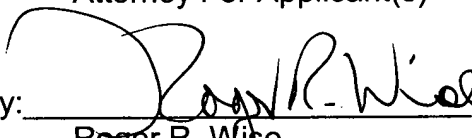
Respectfully submitted,

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